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English Egghead Backs Findings Of Commission

LONDON (AP) — A leading English intellectual and pundit attempted Thursday to debunk the debunkers with a lengthy, closely argued assertion that the Warren Commission was basically correct in its findings on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

John Sparrow, warden of All Souls College, Oxford, wrote in the literary supplement of the *London Times*: "Critics of the report are of two kinds: 'demonologists,' who are ready to sling at authorities any stone and any mud that presents itself, and serious inquirers, who concentrate on a hard core of relevant evidence."

But none, he suggested in the 19,000-word article, has a case to answer.

"They put forward good points and bad alike," he says, "mingle discredited assertions with valid evidence, and make up for weak links in their hypothesis by loud assertion and virulent abuse of the Dallas police, the FBI and the commission."

"The near future will show how much of the Joesten-Garrison conspiracy theory can survive examination in court; the moment (Clay) Shaw's trial is pending and it is perhaps significant that no coconspirators

have yet been added to the indictment."

Sparrow declared: "Throughout (all attacks on the commission's report) there run two fatal weaknesses. The first (is) an inability to see the wood through obsession with a single tree."

"The other . . . is that the authors have never thought themselves back into the circumstances at the relevant time, and asked whether it is possible to believe that the persons concerned, with the knowledge then available to them, could have decided to do the things they are supposed to have done."